

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for desoldering comprising:
at least one hollow metal wire molded to conform to the tip of a
desoldering tool; wherein,
the hollow metal wire is formed from a metal fabric.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the desoldering tool
comprises a desoldering gun.

Claim 3 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the desoldering tool
comprises a desoldering iron.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow metal wire is
molded to conform to a cone-shaped tip of a desoldering tool.

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow metal wire is
molded to conform to an edge-shaped tip of a desoldering tool.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow metal wire is
molded to conform to an elongated cone-shaped tip of a desoldering tool.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow metal wire is
molded to conform to a square-shaped tip of a desoldering tool.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow metal wire is
molded to conform to an angled-shaped tip of a desoldering tool.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow metal wire is
molded to conform to a rounded cone-shaped tip of a desoldering tool.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow metal wire is formed from a metal fabric.

Claim 11 (original): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the metal fabric is formed from one or more metal ropes.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the metal rope is formed by combining a plurality of metal threads.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the metal threads have a gauge in the range of 0.01 to 0.10 mm.

Claim 14 (original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the plurality of metal threads comprises five metal threads

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method for constructing a desoldering sheath comprising:

providing a hollow metal wire formed from a metal fabric;
coiling the hollow metal wire around a male cone-shaped mold; and
compressing the hollow metal wire between the male cone-shaped mold and a female cone-shaped mold.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 15, further comprising applying an adhesive to an exterior surface of the hollow metal wire to join together two or more adjacent coiled loops of the hollow metal wire.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 15, further comprising applying rosin to an exterior surface of the hollow metal wire to join together two or more adjacent coiled loops of the hollow metal wire.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A method for constructing a desoldering sheath comprising:

providing a plurality of hollow metal wires formed from a metal fabric;
orienting the hollow metal wires so that they are parallel to each other;
joining the hollow metal wires together;
compressing the joined hollow metal wires in a "V" shaped mold, thereby imparting a "V" shape to the joined hollow metal wires; and
cutting the crease of the "V" shaped hollow metal wires, thereby creating openings into the hollow metal wires.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 18, wherein the hollow metal wires are joined together by an adhesive.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 18, wherein the hollow metal wires are joined together by welding.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 18, further comprising:
affixing one or more fasteners to the exterior of the hollow metal wires to aid in securing the desoldering sheath to a tip of a desoldering tool.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A desoldering sheath comprising:
a grommet;
a hollow metal wire having an end that is mounted onto the grommet; and
a grommet fastener adapted to secure the hollow metal wire onto the grommet;
wherein, the hollow metal wire is formed from a metal fabric.

Claim 23 (original): The desoldering sheath of claim 22, wherein a plurality of hollow metal wires are mounted onto the grommet.

Claim 24 (original): The desoldering sheath of claim 22, wherein the hollow metal wire includes a second end that is tapered.

Claim 25 (original): The desoldering sheath of claim 23, wherein the plurality of hollow metal wires are oriented in a coaxial manner.

Claim 26 (original): The desoldering sheath of claim 22, wherein a diameter of the hollow metal wire is slightly less than a diameter of the grommet.